

22/E  
OL  
9-23-03  
(~~22/E~~)

After Final Response  
Under 37 CFR 1.116  
Expedited Procedure  
Examining Group 3761

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In The Application Of: Rourke et al.  
Serial No. : 09/529,575  
Group Art Unit : 3761  
Confirmation No. : 9622  
Docket No. : 7042R  
Filed : April 14, 2000  
Examiner : J. Webb

For: PROTEASE INHIBITORS IN ABSORBENT ARTICLES

**RESPONSE/AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This response/amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated May 6, 2003, which set a three-month period of response. Applicants request continued examination of the present application. Attached hereto is a Petition for a 1-Month Extension of Time, and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a), providing for a timely response up to and including September 6, 2003. Since September 6<sup>th</sup> fell on a Saturday, it is believed that the submission should be deemed timely pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.7. Please consider the following amendments and remarks.

*Amendments to the Specification* begin on page 2 of this paper. 09/01/2003 FILES 00000002 162400 09529575

*Amendments to the Claims* begin on page 3 of this paper. 09/01/2003 750.00 DA

*Remarks* begin on page 5 of this paper.